

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 1/23/2012

GAIN Report Number: NL2002

Netherlands

Post: The Hague

Shipment released after detention because of certificate errors

Report Categories:

Export Accomplishments - Other

Approved By:

Mary Ellen Smith

Prepared By:

Marcel Pinckaers

Report Highlights:

U.S. scallops released after detention because of errors in the new Format Health Certificate. The new (and current) format certificate was adopted in June 2011.

General Information:

On January 17, 2012, FAS/The Hague was informed by the NOAA office (U.S. Department of Commerce) in Brussels that during the Document check the NVWA (Netherlands) had recommended refusal of a shipment of U.S. scallops (19,050 lbs). The reason for the refusal is the fact, that after June 2011, the CFN number of an “other than processor” no longer can appear on the Health Certificate. Under the new certification, the box should mention the producer/manufacture of the product, not the broker. However, in practice, shipments continue to be imported in other EU Member States under the old system. Also, NOAA repeatedly asked DGSANCO for an official position since NOAA feared they might face issues. Only on January 16, 2012, NOAA received an official letter confirming the fact that box I.28 should indeed mention the manufacturer/producer of the goods referred on a certificate. FAS/The Hague contacted the NVWA and was able to create an opportunity for NOAA to send a statement on the situation and to also share with the NVWA the CFN numbers of the manufacturer. On January 20, the NVWA released the consignment of a Massachusetts based exporter with an estimated value of \$ 219,050.